

# **Division of Graduate Education International Collaborations Opportunities and Challenges**

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# Opportunities and Challenges

- NSF DGE Funding Opportunities and Challenges
- Graduate Student Opportunities and Challenges



# Expanding the global engagement of NSF Graduate Fellows through enhanced international collaborations

- NSF-supported Graduate Fellows may study overseas
  - 72 Fellows currently studying abroad, most in Europe
- International travel supplement for Graduate Fellows
- New Nordic Research Opportunity for current Graduate Fellows (Norway and Finland)

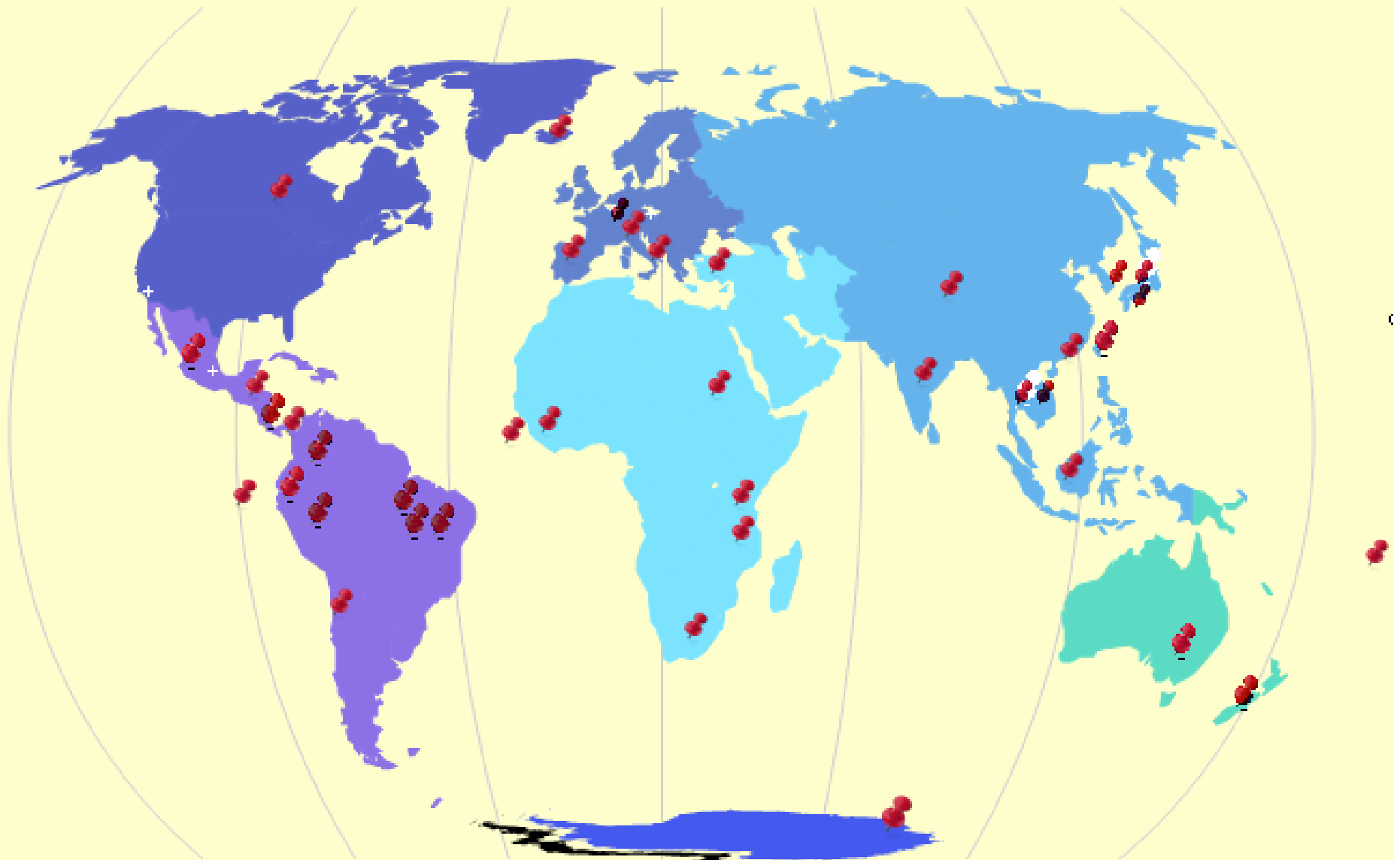


# GK-12 International Activities

- Supplement to existing awards for fellows and teachers to engage in international research and collaborations



# GK-12 International Collaborations



# IGERT International Activities

- \$200,000 optional international component for implementation of well-integrated international research, education and training experiences
- Approximately half of all IGERT awards receive international component funds



# Countries IGERT trainees visited in 2007-2008



# IGERT Trainees in Europe: 2007-2008

Country	# trainees
Germany	50
United Kingdom	36
Italy	35
France	20
Spain	18

Country	# trainees
Sweden	17
Switzerland	15
Austria	11
Netherlands	9
Norway	7





# NSF DGE Challenges

- Budget
- Minimal funding for faculty
- Do not fund international students or faculty to work here
- Need metrics to determine value



# Opportunities for graduate students

- Carry out research otherwise not possible
  - Location, facilities, topics
- Develop networks for future research otherwise not possible
- Develop personal and professional skills for future
  - Globally competent?



# Challenges for Graduate Students

- Not all choose to go – why not?
- Benefit? For stay-at-homes? Foreign students?
- Language and cultural preparation?
- Increased time to degree
- Interruption of research progress (if research abroad is not directly on doctoral dissertation)
- If dissertation carried out abroad, letters of recommendation for postdoc or faculty position
- Brain drain?

